

Guardian Angels Pastoral Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Clergy in Attendance: Fr. John Lendvai, Fr. Andrew Fischer, Fr. Aaron Kriss and Deacon Wood

Staff: Heather Wygonik

Council Members Present: Dave Wygonik, Tom Babinsack, Mary Beth Danik, Joan Cupec, Dave Kuniak, Justine Long-Meyers, Clem Lovasik, and John Peters.

Fr. John began the Pastoral Council meeting with the Prayer to St. Joseph written by Pope Francis, March 19, 2020.

There were no corrections to last month's minutes.

Fish Fry Update ~ provided by Heather Wygonik

The Fish Fry is doing extremely well. We have also received approximately \$4,000.00 in donations.

Volunteers have been extremely dedicated working as a team for the parish. They are enjoying themselves and happy to pitch in.

Potential Festival Information ~ provided by Heather Wygonik

If we are permitted to run the festival, it will be Heather's 12th year as the chairperson.

We would like to run the festival as it has the potential to bring in 50 to 60 thousand dollars in profit.

It normally would run from July 14th to July 17th.

Heather has been in contact with Lloyd from LAM Enterprises who provides the rides. He has been approved by both the state and the county health departments. He will be following all safety guidelines, social distancing, sanitation, and he may not have quite as many rides as he has had in the past.

Fun Services, the game provider is also ready to go and on board. He too will follow all the guidelines we give him.

We will have a cash raffle that usually generates about 15 to 18 thousand dollars.

We will have a basket raffle. We already have a start on this with the items that were gathered for last year's basket raffle. The basket raffle usually brings in around \$10,000.

Those who provide entertainment have begun contacting Heather so the interest is there.

Can we consider Food Trucks for the festival? We can look at that, especially if we still have guidelines in place for preparation and serving of food.

If we are limited in the number that can attend at once, we must consider how to control the crowd. Will we need fencing?

Since planning must begin now, Heather will reach out to the Diocese for permission, if we do not hear from them soon.

Covid Update

Even though the new guidelines are 75% capacity, we are already at capacity within our churches. Remember, we still must maintain the 6-foot distance and one pew separation is not 6 feet. We must remain with the two-pew separation.

We will continue to follow the guidelines from the CDC, Allegheny County Health Department and the Diocese. Please know that the final word comes from the Bishop and we will "stay the course" until the Bishop gives the okay to change things.

The Diocese has given us permission to hold parish meetings, things like St. Vincent de Paul and the Ladies of Charity. We have been given permission to use music sheets for Easter and we have been given permission to do the Reading and Preach without a mask.

We are showing an increase in attendance numbers which we believe is caused by an increase in people being vaccinated and the nice weather. We are holding a Chrism Mass for the Priests this year that we did not have last year, we have been given permission to hold all the Easter Masses and Services and we are permitted to hand out palms this year, so things are getting better.

We are often questioned about St. Mary in Freeport and St. Margaret Mary in Lower Burrell and why they are not taking registrations and limiting attendance. We cannot answer for them because they are in a different Diocese.

We cannot do what they do as we follow Bishop Zubik and what the Pittsburgh Diocese has directed.

Tom Babinsak reported that he encountered a couple of people at Walmart that did not know about things that are going on at the church, Masses, Fish Fry, etc. He was happy to share that information with them.

Judy McCullough informed the council that Masses and Stations are now Embedded on the website and folks should just scroll down on the main page to find them. To watch live, you still need to go to Facebook.

Fr. Fischer shared good news that “The Light is On For You” was a success. There were two sessions, 1-3 and 6-8. During those times, the priests heard a lot of confessions.

New News

We are close to getting the census out. This will help with updating information in our files and will help reduce cost.

The Finance Council met for the first time. It was an informational meeting. They were caught up on our current financial situation.

The ramp and steps repair at Most Blessed Sacrament came with some good news. The insurance company paid for most of the repair.

We will be looking at new technologies, in the near future, which will help with communications.

We have not gotten an answer about the Corpus Christi sawdust carpets from the Diocese.

We have sent emails, talked about on a Zoom call but still, we have not received a definitive answer.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 27th @7:00 pm in Patterson Hall

Closing prayer was offered by Fr. Andrew Fischer.